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REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed July 15, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the telephone conversation with Examiner Moore, the amendments and remarks presented herein.

Examiner Moore is thanked for the courtesies extended during his phone call to Applicants on January 15, 2004. As a result of that call, and the amendments and remarks presented herein, the claims are believed to be allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections are respectfully requested.

As per request in the Office Action, Applicants confirm election of Group 2, claims 2, 3 and 39-43, without traverse. Claims 2 and 39 have been amended; support for the amendments can be found throughout the disclosure. Claims 40 and 41 have been canceled. Claims 2, 3, 39, 42 and 43 remain after entry of the amendments herein.

Claims 2, 3 and 39-43 were rejected under 35 USC 101 over United States patent 6,168,936 and were provisionally rejected under 35 USC 101 over United States patent applications 09/273,957 and 10/080,210. Applicants acknowledge the rejection(s), as well as the provisional rejections. In the telephone conference on January 15, 2004, Examiner Moore agreed that the rejections may be held in abeyance until patentable subject matter has been found.

Claims 2 and 39-43 were rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph because, according to the Office Action, the claims are not adequately described in the specification. Based upon conversation with the Examiner, the amendments and remarks presented herein, Applicants believe that the claims are now adequately described. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 39-43 were rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph because, according to the Office Action, the claims are not enabled in the specification. Based upon conversation with the Examiner, the amendments and remarks presented herein, Applicants believe that the claims are now enabled. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

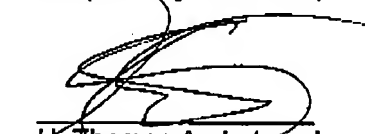
Claims 2, 3 and 39-43 were rejected under 35 USC 102 over Convents (WO 99/49010), Amory (WO 99/49020), Wang (WO 00/37654), Bodie (WO 00/39306) and

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Wang (US 6,399,329). Based upon conversation with the Examiner, the amendments and remarks presented herein, including the amendment to the specification perfecting Applicants' priority claim, Applicants believe that the claims now overcome the rejections. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance and issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Examiner Moore is invited to contact Applicants at (650) 846-7544 if there are additional questions/concerns.

Respectfully submitted,



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